

# DIAMOND



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Monday, March 16, 1987

## Board Approves Raises in '87-'88 Fees

by Galen Sinkey

Dordt's Board of Trustees had a big agenda on March 5 and 6, as they met here for one of their semi-annual meetings. High on their list of priorities were interviews with professors who are applying for tenure or for a two-year reappointment. The budget for the 1987-88 school year, and five reports were also part of the board's agenda.

The Board considered Dr. Rockne McCarthy for tenure and interviewed six others for two-year reappointments: Marvin Wielard, Henry Duitman, John Hofland, Ron Vols, Dennis DeJong, and Dorenda Van Gaalen. Each interview resulted in board approval.

The budget for next year contains a \$370 increase in tuition to \$5,690, a \$60

increase in room to \$820, and a \$30 increase in board to \$1,080. Faculty salaries were frozen for the 1986-87 year, but for 1987-88 there will be an increase of \$400 in the faculty base salary.

The committee studying the possibility of adding a master's degree program in education presented a progress report. The committee has sent out questionnaires to CSI teachers throughout the Midwest in order to determine interest in a master's program at Dordt. The program is still in its conceptual stages and no time has been set for when this program will be established.

The task force on international and minority students reported that they expect the number of such

students at Dordt to grow to fifty in the near future, with projections that the number will continue to increase. The task force is also committed to meeting the needs of international/minority students, and to providing orientation to Dordt.

A report was also presented about the new scholarship program at Dordt. The program will be spending more money on scholarships geared towards students in the top ten percent of high school graduating classes. Renewable scholarships will be offered to students who maintain a certain minimum GPA. The program is being started in order to attract more students to Dordt.

Finally, Dr. John Vander Stelt presented a report on

the International Council for Promotion of Christian Higher Education, of which Dordt is a part. The council is made up of representatives of Christian colleges from around the world. Its purpose is to discuss scholarship issues related to these colleges. From July 29 to August 5, the council will meet in Lusaka, Zambia. President Hulst, Dr. Vander Stelt, and Dr. John Van Dyk will be representing Dordt at this meeting.

The Board of Trustees meets twice a year, every September and March. There were thirty-six members present at the last meeting, from all over the country. There were also advisors present from Canada, and other Reformed denominations.

## Prof Looks Back at Trivia & Substance at Dordt

### An Interview with Retiring Professor Jack Vandenberg



Mr. Jack Vandenberg, a graduate of both Dordt and Calvin colleges, has been teaching in the Dordt English department since 1967. This year marks his final year of full-time teaching. Diamond reporter Eve Spykman interviewed Vandenberg last week to find

out some of his memories, observations, and plans.

Diamond: Mr. Vandenberg, You've recently been honored by the Dordt Board for having taught here for twenty years, and you will be retiring after this semester. Looking back, how has Dordt changed since 1967?

Vandenberg: In many ways. One thing that impresses me is the average size of the males now; I feel like I'm walking the Valley of Giants when I walk down the hallway. Seriously, we have both male and female students who are much taller than students used to be.

That's one obvious observation. Another one is that the topics of discussion in the hallways are generally not as serious as they used to be. They're a little more flippant. I don't know how serious that is; it's not safe to make any generalizations on that basis.

Diamond: What were the topics of heated discussion twenty years ago, or so?

Vandenberg: I guess there were two things. One, we were forever wondering and asking and discussing how teaching in a Christian college should be different from teaching at another college. We were asking questions about our art and our craft--how is our teaching significantly different because we're Christians? That was something that the students were engaged in then, too. There was all kinds of dialogue going on in the hallways about that.

Diamond: How did that discussion develop over time?

Vandenberg: I think it was because we were meeting with the Mid-America college consortium, and each group had a different philosophy of education. We found, to our dismay, that a lot of

people were teaching in colleges like ours simply because it was a small, private college and that's where they wanted to teach. The consortium didn't really challenge us at first, but then there came a time when they started asking, "How is your teaching different, since you're teaching at a Christian college?" So the consortium itself made us think about it and define what we were doing and why we were doing it and how we were doing it.

Then gradually we became more and more sure of ourselves because we had gone through that process, and we discovered, too, in the process of asking questions and answering them, that we had answers--good answers.

Another thing that happened that changed things considerably was the influence of the AACSB. I think they had a good

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# Policies & Priorities

It is my belief that once a student is capable of choosing a field of study at a college or university, and is capable of paying tuition from his or her own pocketbook, then he or she should be allowed to grow as an independent adult. Unfortunately, this is not always the case, especially here at Dordt.

Last week I had the opportunity of discovering what it means to be responsible for three teenage kids when I housesat for a friend. The kids were basically responsible for their own meals, for keeping the house in order, for feeding the pets, and for dealing with the weekend. The only responsibility I had was to be there at night in case of emergency, or for advising. There were times when I wondered whether the kids would actually return for the night, but everything always worked out, and communication between us grew.

To draw an analogy, Dordt students, away from their parents' supervision, are

also given a supervisor. But unlike my role as an advisor to these responsible teenagers, students are often very restricted. Some of the restrictions are somewhat understandable. In our freshman and sophomore years, late leaves and overnight passes must be used so that in case an emergency arises, the supervisors know when or where to reach the student. These leaves and passes are also used as guidelines for students who are not yet accustomed to handling so much time.

There is a policy of no alcohol on campus. One of the main reasons for this policy is that many of Dordt's supporters would no longer send in their contributions if Dordt did away with the policy.

Another policy which Dordt has established is that all Dordt students, except married student, local residents, and certain cases, must live in Dordt approved housing. This is to insure that the money Dordt pays for utilities is used

to maximum capacity.

Although the policy makers have solid reasons for instating these and other policies, they do not help a student grow independently.

If one of the main reasons for late leaves and overnight signouts are for emergency reasons, then why are upperclassmen exempt from these tedious rules? What better way for an underclassman to become responsible than to be responsible for his or her own time? And if this is an impossibility for certain students, they will soon discover that they are not responsible enough to handle college life.

I also understand Dordt's policy of no alcohol on campus and the reasoning behind this policy. It is not just a question of losing money from supporters, but it is for purposes of witnessing as well. But I do not understand why married couples in Dordt housing, or any off campus students must be forced to abide by this policy as well. If students

are held responsible enough to live off campus, and certainly if they are married, they should be responsible for their own use of alcohol.

The housing matter has been a sore spot for more than a few upperclass Dordt students. Years ago when Dordt did not have dormitories or apartments, students were required to find their own housing. Although an inconvenience, it was a way for them to live on their own independently.

Independence and responsibility are important qualities for anyone to build. And if the Dordt atmosphere does not promote responsibility as much as it could, then each student should take it upon himself to grow independently. Once a student has completed his study at Dordt, he or she is suddenly left to find a job, hunt for an apartment, without any previous experience. Most graduates from other colleges and universities will be well experienced.

## Campus Footprints with

*Jeff Burghgraef*



The job of a weatherman, like most jobs, is a job where it's hard to please everyone. If a weatherman's forecast is "sunny and clear", there's usually a farmer who wished for clouds and rain. Athletes seem to be divided on what is preferable weather. Where some like it hot, others like it cold. Some like dry ground, others like it icy. In general rain seems to put a damper on most sports, except of course mud wrestling.

The weather has been a rather "hot" topic on campus lately. One needs only to walk to class in order to hear someone say "What nice

## The Weather Could Please Everyone

weather we're having." Yet despite the record highs and the optimism that Iowa might skip winter this year, there are still some students who are praying for snow. I prefer to call them snowaholics.

California students are just beginning to feel at home ... at least as much as it is possible for a Californian to feel at home in Northwest Iowa. Some of them are probably waiting for the latest edition of Dordt bikini fashionware in the Dordt Bookstore so they can wear the Dordt emblem on their behind with pride. Those who aren't snowaholics have probably joined the Californians in offering what I call anti-prayers--prayers for more record warm temperatures in an effort to cancel out the snowaholic's prayers. If one looks at last week's temperatures when they soared into the 60s, it would appear as if the anti-prayers are gaining the upper hand.

Nonetheless, there seems to be a serious problem developing at Dordt College.

A schism seems to be developing between the snowaholics and those who offer antiprayers.

It has occurred to me that as a Christian student body we would be more effective if we all prayed for the same thing. In order to do this, both summer and winter would have to be present at Dordt nine months out of the year. I have a plan that would accomplish this. I propose that the school use all its Heritage 21 money to build a climate controlled dome over the campus. This way it could be 80 degrees inside the dome and negative 70 degrees outside. Dordt could boast that it has the best of both worlds.

Students would no longer

have to spend their life's savings on tanning booth sessions but could bask in the sun every day after classes. Other students could start their own intramural frisbee golf league and practice year round.

This idea, of course, will never be approved by the Dordt hierarchy who will argue that students need the grants. Someday if you're walking from East Campus to your classes and the wind is howling and your notebook is frozen to your arm, remember your other colleagues who transferred from Dordt to get a suntan at a college in California, Florida, or Hawaii.





# Pro-Life and Capital Punishment

by Jonathan Grossmann

In addressing the problem of whether a Christian can be for capital punishment and at the same time be against abortion, we must refer to the Bible, without which the Christian has no solid ground to stand on.

Both of these issues are grounded on fundamental biblical principles. They are not, as might be thought, based on the fundamental worth or dignity of human life. Although we are to hold human life in high regard, it is God's commandments that should motivate us to protect it. Man is made in the image of God. When one man kills another, whether with a gun or by abortion, man is rebelling against God.

Genesis 9:6 says, "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man." This passage makes the connection between murder and the creation of man in the image of God.

Abortion is murder. I think most reformed Christians would agree to that. We ought to do everything in our power to take a stand against this hideous practice. However, when someone mentions abortion and capital punishment together many Christians become hesitant and quite unsure of themselves. Here is where we must be extremely careful. Abortion is murder just as surely as shooting an adult in cold blood is. Both are

the deliberate taking of a life without justification.

There are times when taking a life is justified. These cases include wartime, self-defense, and the putting to death of the murderer by the state. That the state has the power to punish the murderer with death is made abundantly clear in Romans 13, where Paul talks about subjection to those in authority over us. In verse four he says, "For he (the head of the state) is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil." It is the

job of the State to punish the criminal, and if the criminal is a murderer, then it is the job of the State to kill him.

Abortion is murder and murder is to be punished with death. Therefore to be consistent, we must demand that both the murderer and the abortionist be punished with death. As God through Moses says in Numbers 35:33, "So you shall not pollute the land wherein you are: for blood it defileth the land; and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it." We are certainly as bad or worse than the Nazis, for we have killed more babies than they killed Jews, and we allow murderers to go unpunished.

## Continued from Page 1

influence, too. They forced us to tangle with the questions, just as the consortium did. Those two events practically coincided.

Looking back on it now, there was a point when the school suddenly matured; the faculty felt they knew what they were doing. They might not have agreed completely on how to do it, but they felt we were moving in the right direction, that we knew what we were teaching here. That's Dordt's coming-of-age. That's probably the most striking thing that I remember.

There's more freedom for the students now, much more freedom. After the sixties we decided, "Hey, it's silly to squabble about things such as hairdo or dress. Let the student do what he wants to do, wear what he wants to wear." We had a silly rule for awhile that unless it was 15 below zero girls might not wear slacks on campus. That always made me smile because it was so inconsistent--girls might not wear slacks, but at the same time they were wearing those miserable mini-skirts. But we outgrew that, too.

**Diamond:** Are there any other stories or memories that stand out in your mind from your teaching experience--serious or humorous?

**VandenBerg:** I remember that the girls used to wear their kerchiefs over their heads with the ends gathered in Monday, March 16, 1987

their mouths, so they could walk in the wind and serenely know their hair wouldn't be in disarray when they got to class. (chuckling) And then there was the stranger that said, "Is that part of your religious belief?" That story is probably the most amusing.

**Diamond:** What do you see for the future of Dordt?

**VandenBerg:** That's an interesting question, a tough one to answer. It's complicated by the fact that this area will never fully recover from this depression. This area will never have the population again that it used to have unless we get industry in these towns.

Dordt seems to have trouble recruiting students who aren't CRC, and we will have to, to survive.

**Diamond:** What do you plan to do after your retirement?

**VandenBerg:** There is a chance that I'll teach one course a semester next year. But I look forward to doing a couple of things I can't do now. One of them is reading new books. And I want to do some woodwork. I've got a fairly good woodworking shop set up in the basement. I want to make a grandfather clock, or try to, at least. I look forward to working with my hands.

We'd love to go to Europe someday, my wife and I. I want to see the U.S. too, of

course. I'd like to see the western states.

**Diamond:** How have you grown personally while teaching at Dordt?

**VandenBerg:** For one thing I have learned, really, to analyze and understand literature tremendously the last ten years. Spiritually, I've grown to appreciate the doctrines of our church--the covenant, for instance, is becoming more and more important to me.

**Diamond:** Before concluding, do you have any additional words for the student body?

**VandenBerg:** Well, I always had the feeling when I was going to school that there was so much to learn and so little time in which to learn it. I think of the

quote from Marvell's "To His Coy Mistress": "At my back I always hear/Time's wing-ed chariot hurrying near."

## DIAMOND

The Diamond is published by the students of Dordt College to present and discuss events on campus and beyond it. Any letters, comments or opinions are welcome. Contributions to the Diamond must be received by the Saturday before publication. Address contributions to:

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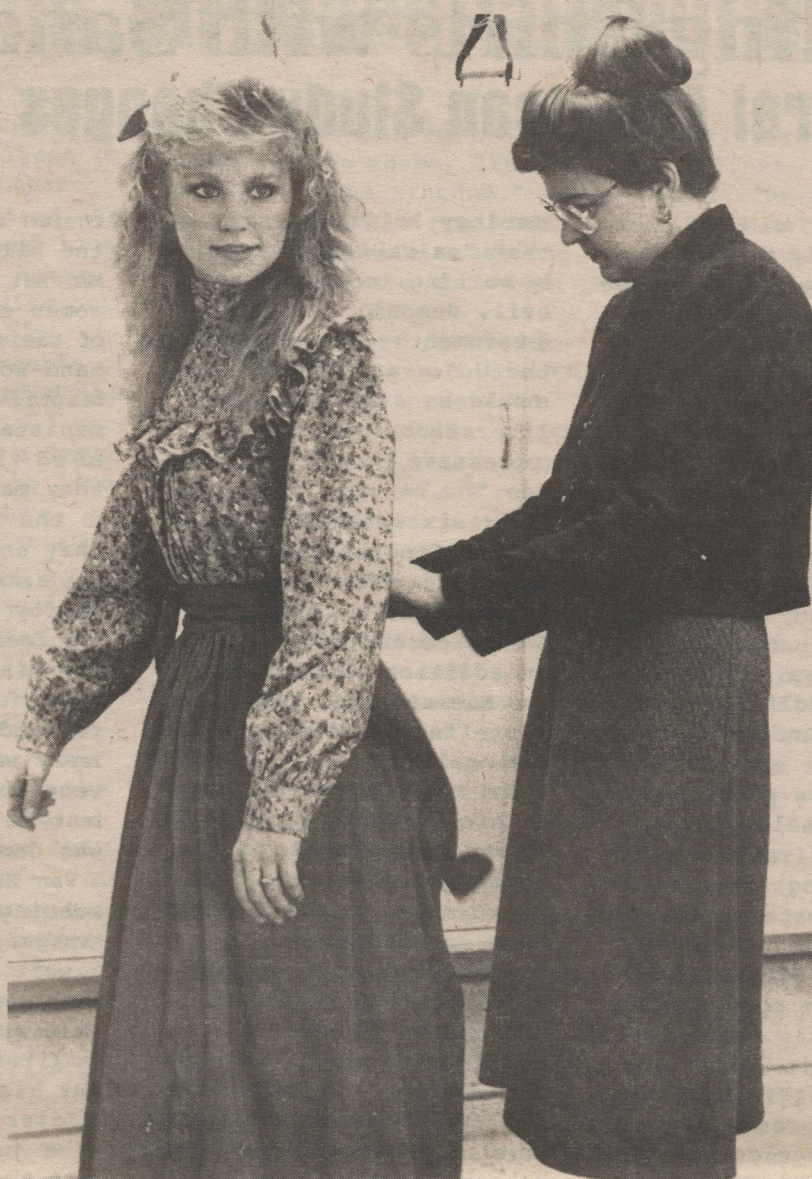


# “Pieces of Lives”

The Diamond has been following the different stages of the production of "Quilters." This past weekend the play was performed. The following is a photo essay of "pieces" from the production.







The following are photo explanations, beginning with the far left photo, and continuing clockwise:

Sarah, portrayed by Nikki Alons, introduces the next scene with one of the blocks from the quilt. Photo by Mike Krommendyk.

Gradeschool teacher, Miss Jesse (portrayed by Lisa Witzenburg) cheers up her pupils after their retreat to the school cellar to escape a twister. Photo by Mike Krommendyk.

Costume designer, Mrs. Matheis, adjusts the waistband on actress Connie Klomp's costume. Photo by Rick Faber.

Mama (Anna De Jong) explains the origins of a quilt to her daughter (Deb Vander Schaaf). Photo by Mike Krommendyk.

Music director Pam De Haan cues the nine members of the "Quilters" orchestra from behind the stage. Photo by Mike Krommendyk.

Lighting technicians Georgia Sjaardema and Jamie Temple concentrate on the stage action from the light booth. Photo by Rick Faber.

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# Trading Shirts with Sandinistas

## Central American Study Changes Dordt Junior

by Melanie Ten Pas

"It's really a soul-wrenching experience to see the poverty and come back here and see a girl with forty pairs of shoes and eight cans of mousse and people driving around in \$50,000 cadillacs," says Dave Van Heemst, a junior who spent last semester in Costa Rica.

"We're so far from fulfilling our obligation to the poor. It's obvious what the Bible says. Christians here aren't fulfilling the Bible's command!" he insists.

Van Heemst's stay in Costa Rica wasn't a luxurious vacation, but rather a "life-changing experience." He was fortunate to live in a wooden house; most are made of tin, with a rock on top so the roof doesn't blow off. Meals consisted of beans and rice, with some bread for breakfast. Living with two adherents of liberation theology provided Van Heemst with ample opportunity for lengthy discussions. Liberation

theology holds, he says, that "salvation is attained by working today against evil, demonic governments--one of which is the U.S.--and that life should be a quest to seek liberation from the oppressive forces of this age."

For six weeks he studied in the Studies Language Institute. His director taught Central American Economics and Politics for an additional six weeks. Van Heemst spent four weeks traveling in Nicaragua and Guatemala.

The most dangerous moment in his travels was when Van Heemst took a picture of some Sandinista soldiers. Immediately he and a friend were surrounded by Spanish-screaming guards. Thinking they were U.S. spies, the guards confiscated their passports and cameras. Thirty minutes later Van Heemst and friend were released and told never to come back.

A highlight of his trip to Guatemala was attending a

church of those who live in the hills of Quezaltenango. Men sat on one side and the women sat on the other. All of their clothing was hand-woven in bright, beautiful colors." When the minister began his sermon he asked the people how much they made a day for working in the fields. "Two bucks," they answered. Van Heemst was asked and his reply was, "Fifty dollars." "What do you feed your kids?" asked the minister. "Corn and beans," the local people responded. Van Heemst's reply was "fruit, vegetables, milk, etc." "We beat it out of there when it was done," said Van Heemst.

Van Heemst recalls a meaningful experience in Managua, Nicaragua. Taking a walk after dark, he ran into some Sandinista soldiers who were drinking. At first he was frightened, but his image of the gruff soldier disappeared. "They were just kids--could have been the ones in Sioux Center." For about an hour Van Heemst and the soldiers

had a "nice conversation" and ended up trading shirts.

According to Van Heemst, "500 children die of diarrhea in Latin America because of poor nutrition. The average Central American male makes \$300.00 per year. Van Heemst's goals of being a teacher, an elder, a husband, and a father were "crashed." With a Spanish major/P.E. minor, Van Heemst may teach a year, but he says, "There is a distinct possibility that my life will be with the poor."

Van Heemst realizes that "not everyone is called to give their entire lives to missions, but they should be conscious of every penny they spend." He mentions Matthew 25:35--"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink." He concludes, "A Dordt student can pray and delve into the Scriptures. He can support a child for a whole year for the price of a Coke a day!"

## Fiction Writers Hear Manfred's Stories

by Angela Struyk

One of the more distinguished novelists to come out of the Dutch Calvinist community is Frederick Manfred, once known as Feike Feikema.

On Tuesday, March 3, 15 fiction writers from English 304 accompanied by their professor, Dr. James Schaap, and Dr. Helen Westra busied to Luverne, Minnesota to visit Manfred in his home.

Manfred lives in a partially underground home on top of a hill overlooking the rocky prairie hills of the area. The giant six foot, nine inch, Frisian man started an evening of entertainment by giving the group a tour of his home, from the hand-picked stone fireplace and sitting room, to the writer's study--a circular room with a grand view. "I better turn some lights off or the neighbours will think I'm having a wild party," Manfred said after everyone had gathered in his study. For the rest of the

evening Manfred told stories about his life, and about his books, from a chair in front of the fire place.

"Frisians have fought the seas for years. We've learned how to bide our time. We always have our fingers in the dike," said Manfred. Throughout the evening, the group discovered that Manfred held great pride in his Frisian heritage. It was evident that he had a good sense of the history of Europe, America, and many wars. These were often used as topics in his novels.

Manfred's experiences at Calvin College seemed to be a favorite topic of his. He told of experiences with women, friends, basketball, and his beginnings as a writer. Throughout the evening the line "did I ever tell you that story?" reoccurred.

The books which have brought Manfred to fame are Lord Grizzly, Greenearth, and Sons of Adam.

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# Conferees Return with Stronger Commitment

by Julie Peterson

The philosophy of redeeming creation is spreading. On February 27, 1987, about 2,000 college students gathered in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with the premise that a Christian worldview offers a powerful sense of hope for culture.

This conference, called JUBILEE, sponsored by the Coalition for Christian Outreach, is a ministry to college and university students in western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio, and northern West Virginia. The conference is designed to examine the meaning of the Lordship of Christ, the Kingdom of God, and the coming of the Kingdom in our daily lives, our studies, and our work.

The name "JUBILEE" is derived from the biblical idea imbedded in the history of God's covenantal relationship with humanity. Since the Creation and Fall, God has placed the Sabbath/Jubilee motif into the created order as a reminder and a sign.

The year of Jubilee was a sabbath year to be held

every fiftieth year. God provided for the release of prisoners, a second chance for the disenfranchised, and hope for those who had lost hope in reliance on their own strength. By living out the sabbath and Jubilee prescriptions, the people of God were to be reminded that God was indeed God, and were to be given a sign, a taste of what heaven will be like.

Jesus announced the beginning of the greatest and eternal Jubilee: "The spirit of the Lord is upon me...He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." We live within this final year of Jubilee. The conference stressed that our task as Christian people is to be Kingdom people in our time, despite the struggles occasioned by living in the "already but not yet" period of history.

Rev. Elward Ellis, a black campus ministry director for Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and executive director of "Destiny '87" was the featured speaker

during the three day weekend. His theme, "The Mission of the Kingdom," was delivered to the conference on three separate occasions in a dynamic and uplifting fashion.

Other speakers focused on issues relating to business, the humanities, physical sciences and social sciences. A special sectional pursued the question "What is justice in Central America?" from the perspectives of Dr. James Skillen, executive director of the Association for Public Justice, and Dr. Paul Marshall, senior member in political theory at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto. Other sectionals focused on computer science and engineering, education, health-related professions, history, biblical studies, journalism, homemaking, law, missions, politics, and psychology. These were led by Dr. Al Wolters, Dr. Harry Fernhout, Dr. Ron Wells, Dr. Jerry Herbert, and Mrs. Elaine Storkey, just to name a few of the many professionals who demonstrated the coherency of a biblical view of life,

the world, and the various disciplines.

Entertainment on Saturday evening was provided by musician James Ward, who, known for his highly energetic and explosive keyboard and vocal performances, lived up to his reputation.

Ten students from Dordt traveled to Pittsburgh to attend the conference. Those returning didn't necessarily come back on a "high" but with a stronger commitment to work in God's Kingdom. They also returned with a deeper respect for Dordt and a reformed worldview. While most of the rest of the students were busy taking notes and trying to gain an understanding of this new worldview, the Dordt students were gaining an appreciation that this philosophy has already been ingrained in us through our classes and traditions.

Conferences like JUBILEE open up doors for thoughts and ideas that cannot be gained through other institutions. So look ahead and reserve February 26, 27, and 28 for JUBILEE '88.

# Resumes & References Job Hunting Busies Seniors, Placement Office

by Alicia Nugteren

In 1986, 999 education positions were reported to the Dordt Career Planning and Placement Office by schools throughout the U.S. and Canada. Opportunities reported in other careers numbered 250. About 1,000 teacher credential files were sent out to schools who were considering the application of Dordt graduates, and nearly 3,000 resumes were distributed to various companies.

Again at this time of year the Placement Office is busily sending information to or setting up interviews with prospective employers of Dordt seniors. Many of these contacts are a result of initial communication that students have made by means of a resume.

Career Planning and Placement Director Quentin Van Essen stated that there are "very few jobs part-time, full-time, or

even summer that don't require a resume." An applicant's short profile, the resume, includes one's professional goals, education, volunteer or work experience, activities or interests, and references. It is the "employer's first impression" of an applicant, so the resume must be carefully written, Van Essen noted.

References, he said, are especially important. Van Essen praised Dordt's faculty for being very conscientious and cooperative in writing recommendations. Amy Van Den Berg, a senior elementary education student, commented that recommendation from the cooperating teacher during one's student teaching experience is a key factor in applying for positions. Beth Wissink, a senior pursuing a career in accounting, added that it is

advantageous to "know people in a company," otherwise you are "just another resume." Alumni have been helpful in serving as contacts, she said.

Letter-writing, another aspect of job hunting, is as important as the resume, Van Essen revealed. Letters are personal statements through which employers can detect the applicant's ability to communicate.

Wissink commented that the information supplied by the Placement Office made filling out a resume easy. Accounting majors, she said, were asked to prepare their resumes last semester, which helped "get us going early."

This early start was encouraged by the Placement Office, which has recently begun to provide an added service to graduates and employers alike. Two booklets consisting of the resumes of seniors majoring

in accounting and business administration or business were sent to 100 to 150 companies. Van Essen believes that this strategy will create more interest in Dordt grads as well as establish good public relations for the college. In the future he hopes to compile similar booklets for engineering, management-information-systems, and social work majors.

Teacher placement is handled in a similar fashion. Van Den Berg noted, however, that education majors complete an autobiographical sketch rather than the more factual resume. It requires "a lot of thought," she said, "to be concise and yet provide the desired information. For instance, teacher candidates must describe how they have grown spiritually and intellectually, how they can

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## Recitals Provide Musicians Opportunities to Perform

by Steve Mulder

At Dordt College, fine artists may have an art display in the chapel mezzanine. Fine poets may place their poems in the Dordt Cannon. Fine agriculture majors may display their expertise on Dordt's "Ag Day." Fine communications majors may be asked to speak on KDCR. Whatever the major area, Dordt tries to provide a forum that accommodates. In the area of music, this forum is the music recital.

Recitals are given often throughout the year. Friday student recitals allow those who are taking private lessons or those who may be preparing for a larger recital to get in front of their peers and perform what they have been studying.

From time to time, visiting musicians on Dordt's campus will also give recitals. This happened most recently during Homecoming week, when alumni organist Pam Ruiter-Feenstra gave an evening recital.

The recitals that provide the biggest opportunity for promising musicians at Dordt College are the senior student recitals.

At larger colleges only a select few may have the opportunity to perform a recital. This is not to say that Dordt's music department will allow just anyone to give a recital. But those who are willing to work hard and become more advanced surely receive the opportunity to display their talents.

Few larger colleges have a facility superior to the Dordt Chapel. This is true not only for those who perform on the Casavant Organ, but also for vocalists and instrumentalists. Visiting professionals on Dordt's campus often comment on the great acoustic quality of Dordt's Chapel.

Preparing a recital is a large task. Some students spend over a year preparing for that one night, first learning and then polishing the pieces, making them as good as they can be. "Recital is always in the back of my mind," commented one music student. "No

matter how much time I take, find, and steal to prepare, I always wish there had been more," said another.

While interviewing several students who have already given recitals at Dordt, I discovered that "a certain amount of nervousness is important to a good performance, but too much can lead to a lack of control." Most students value nervousness because if too relaxed, "the performance will lack a certain vitality."

After a recital is over, performers experience conflicting feelings. Initially they feel happy, satisfied, relieved. Later the performers often have a "let-down feeling," but realize that life must continue.

Recitals are a vital part of a performing musician's life. According to music instructor De Mol, "Preparing a recital is an unmatched occasion for working hard with other musicians..., and the fellowship enjoyed in this intense time of work is in itself worth the whole endeavor."

### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

use their knowledge and talents in teaching, and how other people have influenced them.

Although resumes are necessary, Wissink warned, "just sending out your resume doesn't give you a job." The next step is the interview with the employer. Interviews may be set up with the help of the Placement Office. Van Den Berg said that for education majors a few days are set aside especially for interviewing.

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